



Institutul Național al  
Patrimoniului

Ministerul Culturii

CABINET MINISTRU	
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# Roșia Montană

## *Mining Landscape*

(1552 rev. Romania)

**State of Conservation Report**

[in compliance with Paragraph 169 of the  
Operational Guidelines]

# 1. Executive Summary of the Report

The property was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2021 - and simultaneously inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger – Decision 44 COM 8C.1. State of Conservation Reports were provided in January 2022 and January 2023.

A DSOCR – Desired State of Conservation to be reached to allow the property to be removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger – was produced after a thorough consultation process between the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS, and State Party representatives in 2022 and 2023. The DSOCR was adopted by the Committee at its extended 45<sup>th</sup> Session in 2023 – Decision 45 COM 7A.56.

The State Party is working steadily for the implementation of the DSOCR corrective measures. Notable progress has been made since 2021, the simultaneous inscription on the World Heritage List and In-danger List providing considerable impetus. This includes establishment of a Management Committee, initiation of the procedure for the elaboration of the General Urban Plan, the ongoing revision of the Property Management Plan, improving the state of conservation of the later mining heritage (prioritising vulnerable heritage, including main churches), general enhancement of the visitor experience, repairs and presentation works for the Roman galleries of the Mining Museum, and emergency works for the main header pond.

# 2. Response to the Decision of the World Heritage Committee

While all actions developed are following the objectives of the World Heritage Committee Decision for inscription in 2021 – 44 COM 8C.1 – this SOC report is addressing the most recent Decision of the World Heritage Committee – 45 COM 7A.56 – for the approval of the DSOCR.

All actions in response to the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee are timetabled, together with responsibilities and suggested indicators, as detailed in the documents submitted to the Centre and the Advisory Body during the consultation process. Such actions were also included as main priorities in the ongoing revision of the Property Management Plan.

The following table presents the main developments in the implementation of the corrective measures, as they were stipulated in the Decision, paragraph by paragraph:

Desired state of conservation	Corrective Measures - Summary	Timeframe for delivering Corrective Measures	Updates and developments
<b>1. Approval of mining permits at the property halted</b>	Halting approval of unadjusted mining activities at the property.	Not defined	No action during arbitration. Specific action will depend on the outcome of the arbitration.  I. On March the 8 <sup>th</sup> 2024, the

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			<p>international arbitral tribunal has notified the award in ICSID case no. ARB/15/31. According to its operative part, Romania has not violated the provisions of the agreements on the promotion and mutual guarantee of investments concluded with the Government of Canada and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.</p> <p>2. The arbitral award is not public at this time. According to the arbitral tribunal's instructions the parties will have to communicate information that is confidential within 90 days from the date of the distribution of the arbitral award.</p> <p>3. The arbitral award may be challenged by an action for annulment within 120 days from the date of its distribution.</p>
<p><b>2. Planning controls developed and implemented that address the prevention of any activities, including mining, which have the potential to negatively impact the attributes of OUV</b></p>	<p>Planning controls approved and implemented that address the prevention of any activity, including mining, that has the potential to negatively impact the attributes of OUV.</p>	<p>2026</p>	<p>Following the operationalization of the Management Committee, a cooperation agreement was signed between Ministry for Development, Public Works and Administration (MDLPA), Municipality of Roşia Montană, Alba County Council and the National Institute of Heritage that establishes their specific role in the process of elaboration and implementation of the General Urban Plan (PUG). MDLPA ensured the needed internal procedure and budget (approx. 400.000 EUR for 2024) for the initiation of the procurement for the preliminary studies and the PUG itself.</p>
<p><b>3. Management committee established</b></p>	<p>Establish a Management Committee</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>The Management Committee became operational in October 2023 and is gradually consolidating its instrumental role in coordinating all stakeholder actions for the protection of the property and the revision of the Property Management Plan.</p>
<p><b>4. Management Plan revised and strengthened in relation to mining issues</b></p>	<p>Revise and strengthen the Property Management Plan that addresses the prevention of any activity, including mining, that has the potential to negatively impact the attributes of OUV</p>	<p>2024</p>	<p>Revision of the Property Management Plan is ongoing within the National Institute of Heritage, with the strong input of the Management Committee and is expected to be finalized towards the end of 2024. As</p>

Desired state of conservation	Corrective Measures - Summary	Timeframe for delivering Corrective Measures	Updates and developments
			such, the relevant national and local actors are being involved with the aim of addressing all pressing issues.
<b>5. Polluted mine water discharge from the main drainage adit mitigated</b>	Measures to address the issue of polluted mine water discharge from the main drainage adit	2026	Ministry of Environment Waters and Forests / National Waters Administration have undertaken water quality assessments. A report and proposals for mitigation scenarios are expected later in 2024 and will be connected with the PUG provisions for future technical solutions (water treatment facility and/or other solutions not yet identified).
<b>6. Inspection and maintenance plan for the 18th/19th century header ponds developed</b>	Developing an inspection and maintenance plan for the 18th/19th century header ponds	2027	Identifying the issues and elaborating a dedicated state of conservation report are under preparation. The risk situation that occurred at the Tăul Mare header pond in October 2022 highlighted the urgent necessity for a maintenance plan. While the event triggered immediate emergency interventions, it also provided an opportunity through drainage for the initiation of the necessary preliminary studies. An inspection and maintenance plan will be developed within the management plan.

### 3. Other current conservation issues identified by the State Party which may have an impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value

There are state of conservation issues in terms of 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century elements within the property – including important houses, churches, and header ponds. These, while of a much later phase and not directly attributed to OUV, are nonetheless important in the presentation of the continuity of the property's wider mining heritage. They also have proven potential to add to the visitor experience and especially contribute to the wellbeing of the local community. All were thoroughly presented in the last SOC report in February 2023, and we are now updating the information as follows:

- the Ministry of Culture, through the National Institute of Heritage, is funding conservation works on built heritage, within its two main funding instruments: the National Restoration Programme (PNR approx. 2.2 million EUR), and the Historic Monuments Stamp Duty programme (TMI approx. 280,000 EUR).

There are two complex ongoing conservation and restoration projects for two of the most representative houses in the property area which are being finalized within PNR (estimated reception autumn 2024 – spring 2025, depending on the weather conditions) while 13 maintenance conservation and restoration works and design implemented within TMI – churches, houses and also repairs and presentation works for the Roman galleries of the Mining Museum – were already completed in 2022-2023 following a call for projects launched immediately after inscription, in October 2021.

- Repairs and conservation works for 8 historic buildings, financed by the Ministry of European Investments and Projects, through the National Resilience and Recovery Plan started in 2023 and are ongoing with a progress of 10 to 40% of the total works, depending to each particular situation. The buildings are owned by local administration and churches, and the budget for each building is set to max. 65,000 EUR, totalling an approx. 500,000 EUR for the entire program.
- There are other heritage interventions, carried out by professional and/or local NGOs (in progress) as part of a larger community program ('Adopt a House') financed both from private donations and grants offered by The Administration of the National Cultural Fund (AFCN-MC) and the Romanian Order of Architects through the architectural stamp duty (total campaign budget of approx. 75,000 EUR in the past 2 years; pending approvals for further similar grants).
- The emergency intervention for the access roads and assistance to the Emergency Situations Department delivered by the Municipality of Roșia Montană in response to the risk situation occurred at the Tăul Mare header pond in October 2022, resulted in a secure situation that now allows the time needed for a more thorough technical assessment and a future durable intervention now under preparation. The Municipality of Roșia Montană continued improvements for road infrastructure to ensure access to the header pond (approx. 90,000 EUR) and made the budget proposals for the necessary studies and technical proposals for a more complex intervention. This will ensure the safety and the conservation of the entire ensemble of the historic header pond, based on the National Institute of Heritage professional assistance.
- Road infrastructure improvements financed through the PNDR - National Local Development Programme - and co-financed by the Roșia Montană Municipality are approved by the Ministry of Culture. These have special provisions for archaeological remains and landscape authenticity protection. Through Local Council Decision such measures are to be initiated in 2024. The project also covers historic roads in the World Heritage property and was developed with the National Institute of Heritage assistance.
- As a result of the recent operationalization of the Management Committee – including a strong scientific unit – and the ongoing revision of the Property Management Plan, the state of conservation of all attributes, and in particular that of Roman archaeology as key attributes, is to be reassessed and conservation priorities are to be established accordingly in the following period.

- 4.** In conformity with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) intended within the property, the buffer zone(s) and/or corridors or other areas, where such developments may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including authenticity and integrity.

None. This topic is going to be addressed within the future Urban Regulations – the General Urban Plan – as well as the Property Management Plan. Provisions regarding the use of Heritage Impact Assessment will be introduced in order to control interventions with potential impact upon the OUV.

- 5.** Public access to the state of conservation report

The State Party of Romania is content for the report to be made public through posting on the website of the World Heritage Centre.

- 6.** Signature of the Authority

Raluca Turcan,  
Minister of Culture

